



Comment on the Bulletin, Website, and Customer Service

The Texas Board of Nursing (BON or Board) requests your feedback on your communication and interaction with the Board. The BON website, www.bon.texas.gov, now has a *Customer Service Survey* where you can provide feedback on: the BON Bulletin; the BON website; Facebook page; webmaster inquiries; and communication with customer service staff. The direct link to the survey is: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2022SPCS>

The link to the survey will be posted on the BON website until May 1, 2022. Individuals unable to access the Board website who wish to obtain a copy of the survey form by mail can contact the BON by telephone at: (512) 305-6842.

Data from the survey will be used in the *Customer Service Report* in the agency's *Strategic Plan for 2023-2027*. Survey data received will be summarized and presented at the July 2022 quarterly BON meeting and published in the October 2022 *Bulletin*. For further information regarding the survey, contact Bruce Holter at: (512) 305-6842.

Board of Nursing Recognized by Drug Enforcement Agency for Contribution to Investigation



Pictured on left are Eduardo A. Chavez, DEA Special Agent; Kathy Shipp, MSN, RN, FNP, President of the Board of Nursing (BON); Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director of the BON; and James "Dusty" Johnston, General Counsel for the BON. Pictured on right are Eduardo A. Chavez and Anthony Diggs, Director of Enforcement for the BON.

On Wednesday, February 23, 2022, the Dallas Field Office of the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) recognized the Board of Nursing and specifically, Anthony Diggs, Director of Enforcement, for contributions to a three-year-long joint DEA and U.S. Attorney's Office investigation involving diversion of controlled substances.

Mr. Diggs and his team who assisted the DEA were commended for responding to several requests for information leading to a significant administrative settlement.

The Texas Board of Nursing will be moving to a new location in August 2022.

Further information on the date of the move and the new location will be provided in the July Bulletin.

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Advisory Committee Update

Advanced Practice Nursing Advisory Committee



The Advanced Practice Nursing Advisory Committee (APNAC) met on March 3, 2022. The APNAC began work on its charge to review the Texas Board of Nursing' (Board) rules and make recommendations regarding rule revisions related to an advanced practice registered nurse's (APRN's) scope of practice. The APNAC

will meet again to continue this work in addition to making recommendations for the creation of related guidance documents for APRNs, such as guidelines, frequently asked questions, or position statements. The APNAC also voted unanimously to elect James R. Walker, DNP, CRNA, FNAP, FAAN, to serve as the committee chair. The date for the next meeting has yet to be determined. Information will be available on the Board's website once the meeting date and location are set.



James R. Walker, DNP, APRN, CRNA, FNAP, FAAN, Chairperson, Advanced Practice Nursing Advisory Committee.

Did you know...

Nurses and applicants can provide the Board with mailing addresses in addition to their residential addresses in their Nurse Portal Accounts. To add a temporary or permanent mailing address, log into the Nurse Portal Account and access the Manage Profile section. Select the Demographics Step and scroll down the page to the Contact Information Panel. To the right of the Residential Address, locate and uncheck the "This is my mailing address" box to enter and save a mailing address that is different from the residential address.

The Safe Harbor Nursing Peer Review (SHNPR) Resource for Nurses is now available for download! This newly created resource provides the who, where, when, why, and how of SHNPR; decision trees for invoking safe harbor; and links to the BON quick and comprehensive request forms. To learn more about safe harbor or to access these resources, visit: https://www.bon.texas.gov/pdfs/safe_harbor_forms_pdfs/SHNPR-Resource.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3kmHLVeejRKhePIQFCq6_KoDIelk8FE5mVx6ARmmK48-IYwp8_4iVAm8



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Summary of Actions



A regular meeting of the Board of Nursing was held January 20, 2022, in Austin. The following is a summary of Board actions taken during this meeting.

In the **December 24, 2021**, edition of the *Texas Register*:

The Board of Nursing (BON or Board) proposed amendments to §223.1, relating to *Fees*. The General Appropriations Act, 87th Regular Legislative Session, passed a budget for the Board for the 2022 - 2023 biennium. Specifically, in Article VIII, Section 2, it limits the Board appropriation to revenue collections. The Board anticipates a revenue surplus for the 2022 - 2023 biennium and proposes to reduce fees to limit revenue collection to align with the approved budget. The proposed amendment is necessary to meet the budgetary requirements of the legislature. Proposed amended §223.1(a)(1) decreases the examination fee for vocational and registered nurse applicants from \$75 to \$50. Amended §223.1(a)(1) was effective February 14, 2022, following publication as adopted in the February 11, 2022, edition of the *Texas Register*.

In the **January 7, 2022**, edition of the *Texas Register*:

The BON proposed amendments to 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.10, relating to *Notice and Service*. The Texas Nurse Portal (Portal), which was launched by the Board on June 15, 2020, is a paperless, confidential, and secure system that allows individuals to apply for nurse licensure by examination and endorsement and renew their licenses. The use of the Portal has moved the Board toward a paperless workflow in the Board's offices and allows the Board to communicate with applicants and licensees directly through the Portal. This online communication is often more efficient and reliable than more traditional methods, such as certified, registered, or first-class mail. The proposed amendments add the Portal as a new avenue to provide notice to applicants and licensees in circumstances where state law does not specifically require notice to be sent via first class, registered, or certified mail. In those

cases, Board notice will continue to be given as specified in existing subsections (a) - (e) of the rule. Notices sent via the Portal may include mandatory notices required by the Nursing Practice Act and the Nurse Licensure Compact for multistate privilege licensure, as well as courtesy notices and routine communication provided by the Board. Further, the Board has already adopted rules incorporating the use of the Portal into its communication with applicants and licensees as it relates to the change of an applicant or licensee's name and/or address (*Texas Register*, 46 TexReg 555). The proposed amendments are consistent with the Board's uniform transition to a more efficient online licensure system.

The Board also proposed amendments to 22 Texas Administrative Code §217.5, relating to *Temporary License and Endorsement*. House Bill (HB) 139, enacted during the 87th Regular Legislative Session, requires a state agency that issues a license that has a residency requirement for license eligibility to adopt rules regarding the documentation necessary for a military spouse applicant to establish residency, including by providing to the agency a copy of the permanent change of station order for the military service member to whom the spouse is married. Current Board Rule 217.5(h) includes in its eligibility requirements for a military spouse applicant proof of residency in Texas. However, proof of residency in Texas is not necessary for the issuance of single state licensure for these applicants. A military spouse applicant wishing to obtain a multistate license under the Nurse Licensure Compact must declare Texas as his/her home state on the application and submit proof of residency required under the Occupations Code Chapter 304 and related compact rules. However, a military spouse applicant is not required to obtain a multistate license to practice nursing in the State of Texas; a military spouse applicant may practice nursing in Texas by obtaining a single state license, which does not require proof of residency. In an effort to conform to the requirements of HB 139, remove any unne-

cessary impediments to single state licensure in Texas for military spouse applicants, and clarify the applicability of the existing rule, the proposed amendment eliminates the language in subsection (h)(1)(B) relating to proof of residency.

The BON also proposed amendments to §228.1, relating to *Standards of Practice*. In April 2018, and in accordance with the Government Code §2001.039, the Board filed a notice of intention to review and consider for re-adoption, re-adoption with amendments, or repeal, §228.1 contained in Title 22, Part 11, of the Texas Administrative Code, pursuant to the 2015 rule review plan adopted by the Board at its July 2015 meeting. The proposed rule review was published in the *Texas Register* on April 6, 2018, (43 TexReg 2167) for public comment. Written comments were received from the APRN Alliance (Alliance). The Board considered the written comments at its July 2018 meeting and charged the Board's Advanced Practice Nursing Advisory Committee (APNAC) with reviewing the written comments and making recommendations to the Board regarding amendments to §228.1. The APNAC met on December 10, 2018, to consider the Board's charge. At its October 2021 Board meeting, the Board considered the Alliance's written comments; the APNAC's recommendations regarding amendments to §228.1; and Board Staff's recommendations regarding amendments to the rule. The Board decided to make some, but not all, of the Alliance's suggested changes to the rule. The Board re-adopted §228.1 without changes in the November 26, 2021, edition of the *Texas Register* to complete the outstanding rule review and is now proposing amendments to §228.1 to address some of the Alliance's written comments in a separate proposal. The earliest possible date of adoption for proposed amendments to §213.10, §217.5, and §228.1 was February 6, 2022.

Nursing Education Actions - January 2022 Board Meeting

Reviewed Reports:

Status Report on New Nursing Education Programs and Currently Active and Potential Proposals

Status Report on Programs with Sanctions

Report on Communication Activities with Nursing Education Programs

Approved Report of Virtual Survey Visit:

Frank Phillips College – Vocational Nursing Education Program in Borger

Galen College of Nursing – Vocational Nursing Education Program in San Antonio

Texas State Technical College – Vocational Nursing Education Program in Harlingen

Victoria College – Vocational Nursing Education Program in Victoria

Acknowledged Notification of Closure of a Nursing Program:

Lone Star College Montgomery – Vocational Nursing Education Program in Conroe

Accepted Report of Program Closure:

Vista College – Vocational Nursing Education Program in El Paso

Approved Proposal to Establish a New Nursing Education Program

ECPI University College of Nursing – Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in San Antonio



2022 Texas Board of Nursing Position Statement Updates

The Texas Board of Nursing (Board or BON) Position Statements are reviewed annually to determine if updates are required related to changes in national practice trends. Board Staff keep apprised of changes in practice nationally through evidence-based practice developments, guidelines, and regulatory changes. Below is an overview of the 10 Position Statements in which changes were adopted by the Board at the January 20, 2022 Board Meeting, three of which had substantive changes.

Non-substantive:

Position Statement 15.1, *Nurses Carrying out Orders from Physician Assistants*, includes non-substantive changes that reflect an update to the references. The references now include the Nursing Practice Act (NPA) Section §301.002(5), or the definition of vocational nursing. Historically, this Position Statement has only included Section §301.002(2), which refers to the definition of professional nursing, or nursing at the registered nurse (RN) level of licensure. This does not alter the meaning, intent, or use of the Position Statement; however, it provides clarification to licensed vocational nurses (LVNs) that this Position Statement includes the LVN level of licensure as well.

Position Statement 15.3, *LVNs Engaging in Intravenous Therapy, Venipuncture, or Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC) Lines*, has been updated to reflect

non-substantive changes consistent with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing's (NCSBN) Model Rules and edits to references that are cited within the Position Statement. In August 2021, NCSBN voted to amend model rules at their Delegate Assembly, which included a modernization of the concept of nursing diagnosis to patient diagnosis. This is consistent with changes in literature and a shift toward the nurse's contributory role in the overall patient diagnosis in collaboration with the healthcare team. This does not amend the intent or purpose of this Position Statement, yet keeps the Position Statement consistent with current trends in nursing education and practice. Additionally, since the resources of other state boards of nursing are cited in the references, these references were updated to reflect each state's most current position on this topic. Staff's review of the updated references confirmed there were no changes inconsistent with the current content of this Position Statement.

Position Statement 15.5, *Nurses with Responsibility for Initiating Physician Standing Orders*, discusses the concepts of standing delegation orders, standing medical orders, and protocols, to provide clarification to nurses in the use of physician standing orders. The non-substantive changes further clarify that standing delegation orders and standing medical orders,

per the Texas Medical Board (TMB) rules do not allow any provider, other than a physician, to issue these types of standing orders.

Position Statement 15.7, *The Role of LVNs & RNs in Management and/or Administration of Medications via Epidural or Intrathecal Catheter Routes*, includes non-substantive changes that reflect the update in title of an organization and edits for consistency to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) communications referenced in the Position Statement. The American Association of Nurse Anesthetists has recently changed their title to American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology; therefore, the Position Statement was updated to reflect this change. Additionally, the FDA has updated their safety communication to now be that of a news release.

Position Statement 15.8, *Role of the Nurse in Moderate Sedation*, like Position Statement 15.7, has non-substantive updates that reflect the change in title by The American Association of Nurse Anesthetists to their new name of American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology.

Position Statement 15.10, *Continuing Education: Limitations for Expanding Scope of Practice*, includes non-substantive changes to acknowledge the revisions made to the Differentiated Essential Competencies (DECs) of Graduates of

Position Statements - continued from previous page

Texas Nursing Programs Evidenced by Knowledge, Clinical Judgments, and Behaviors in January 2021. The DEC's Work Group updated the DEC's in November 2020 in consideration of current trends in nursing education, practice, and regulation; these were adopted by the Board in January 2021. The DEC's are referenced in this Position Statement.

Position Statement 15.11, *Delegated Medical Acts*, has a non-substantive change to clarify that advance practice registered nurses (APRNs) cannot delegate medical aspects of care that are delegated to them by a physician, and they cannot create standing delegation orders for others. However, APRNs may delegate nursing tasks in the capacity of a registered nurse consistent with Delegation Chapters 224 and 225, as appropriate.

Substantive:

Position Statement 15.25, *Administration of Medication & Treatments by LVNs*, has improvements that are

substantive in nature. Within this Position Statement are knowledge and clinical judgements/behaviors related to the administration of medications by LVNs, that are found within the DEC's. Since revisions were made to the DEC's in January 2021, these changes reflect the updates to the knowledge and clinical judgments/behaviors associated with the administration of medications at the vocational nurse educational preparation.

Position Statement 15.27, *The Licensed Vocational Nurse Scope of Practice*, includes substantive modifications that align with current trends in nursing education, practice, and regulation at the LVN level of licensure. The changes include reference to the updated DEC's, grammatical changes to clarify expression, and the modernization of the concept of nursing diagnosis to be replaced with the nurse's contribution to the patient diagnosis in collaboration with the healthcare team.

Position Statement 15.28, *The Registered Nurse Scope of Practice*, includes substantive amendments that align current trends in nursing education, practice, and regulation at the RN level of licensure. The changes include reference to the updated DEC's, grammatical changes to clarify expression, and the modernization of the concept of nursing diagnosis to be replaced with the nurse's contribution to the patient diagnosis in collaboration with the healthcare team.

As a reminder, Board Position Statements do not have the force of law, but are a means of providing direction to nurses on issues of concern to the Board relevant to protection of the public. Board Position Statements can be accessed, along with an explanatory video of the 2022 Position Statement updates, on the BON website under the heading **Practice** then **BON Position Statements**.

IMPOSTER WARNING

If you have any knowledge or information regarding the employment practices of the following individual or any nurse imposter, please contact the Board's Enforcement Division immediately at (512) 305-6838.

MAKESHA MECHAN THOMAS

On or about February 9, 2021, to April 14, 2021, Makesha Mechan Thomas obtained employment and practiced as a registered nurse (RN) at a hospice facility in Tomball, Texas, by presenting fraudulent credentials. During this time, Makesha Mechan Thomas represented herself as a nurse, provided direct patient care, and acted as an administrator. Makesha Mechan Thomas presented a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from a college in Arizona which had been rescinded in 2017 due to fraudulent transcripts submitted for transfer credits, and in October 2019, Makesha Mechan Thomas's license to practice professional nursing in the State of Wisconsin was revoked. The Board's investigation revealed that Makesha Mechan Thomas did not and does not currently possess a license or privilege to practice nursing in the State of Texas. This case has been referred to the Harris County District Attorney's Office for prosecution.





What You Need to Know: Federal/Military Nurses and Spouses

Federal, Veterans Administration, Military and Indian Health Services Nurses

The Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) allows a nurse (registered nurses [RNs] and licensed practical/vocational nurses [LPN/VNs]) to have one multistate license in the primary state of residence (the home state) and to practice in other compact states (remote states), while subject to each state's practice laws. Advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) are not included in the NLC.

Based on federal supremacy, nurses in this category are exempt from licensure in the state of practice when they hold an active nurse license in any state. This exemption does not apply when a nurse is practicing in a civilian facility in a non-federal role. In this case, the nurse will need to hold appropriate licensure in the state of practice.

Although federal supremacy exempts a nurse from holding a license in the state of practice when they hold an active nurse license in any state, this pertains to a single state license. If a nurse in this category wishes to hold a multistate license, the nurse must have legal residency in an NLC state. Such nurses may utilize military form 2058 as proof of legal residency. This residency requirement only pertains to the multistate license and not to the single state license.

A nurse working in a remote NLC state in federal/military facility may practice on single state license issued by the remote NLC state and is not required to obtain a multistate license from the home NLC state.

A nurse employed by the federal government holding a multistate license in the primary state of residence shall not hold an additional single state license in any remote NLC state. This is because the multistate license provides the authority for the nurse to practice in all NLC states.

Military Spouses who are Nurses

Maintaining or changing a primary state of legal residency is at the discretion of the nurse. Should a nurse maintain legal residency in a NLC state and hold a multistate license and the military family is stationed in other NLC states, the nurse may practice under the home state multistate license in the other NLC states without obtaining additional licensure in those states.

Example Scenario

Mary Smith is a military spouse with primary state of legal residency in Florida (an NLC state). Mary holds a Florida multistate license. The Smith family is a military family and has been stationed in Virginia (an NLC state) for 2 years. Mary is able to practice in Virginia under the Florida multistate license as long as she maintains legal residency in Florida during her time in Virginia. Therefore, Mary does not need to apply for a Virginia license. After living in Virginia, Mary's family is ordered to a base in Texas (an NLC state) for several years. Similarly, Mary is able to practice in Texas under the Florida multistate license while maintaining Florida as her state of legal residency. If Mary's family were to be stationed in a non-compact state, then she would need to hold a license issued by that state or apply for license by endorsement with that state. This assumes that, as a spouse, Mary is not working in a federal capacity. Nevertheless, while her family is temporarily stationed in this non-compact state, she may choose to continue to maintain Florida as her legal state of residency.

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For more information about the NLC, visit www.ncsbn.org/nlc or email nursecompact@ncsbn.org.

A Call to Graduate Nursing Programs: NCSBN's International Center for Regulatory Scholarship (ICRS) Seeking Academic Partnerships

The ICRS provides unprecedented opportunities for nursing and policy leaders from around the world to learn, network, and collaborate. The ICRS is seeking partnerships to offer reciprocal courses toward graduate-level degrees in public or health policy, nursing, public health, health care administration, and leadership.

The ICRS would like to partner with select academic institutions to promote regulatory science and help equip future health care leaders with the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to succeed in the complex and ever-changing fields of nursing, health care delivery, and health profession regulation. Students will also have access to NCSBN's **Center for Regulatory Excellence (CRE)** which offers unique opportunities to serve as paid **NCSBN Scholars in Residence** for graduate students or faculty, as well as grants to graduate students and seasoned researchers for scientific research projects related to nursing regulation and policy.

Proposals are now being accepted until May 16, 2022. The application can be accessed at: https://www.ncsbn.org/NCSBN_ICRS_Academic_Partnership_RFP_FINAL.pdf Contact icrs@ncsbn.org for more information.



ICRS
International Center
for Regulatory Scholarship



Vermont Implements the Nurse Licensure Compact

On February 1, 2022, Vermont joined 35 other states that have implemented the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC). The NLC allows registered nurses (RNs) and licensed vocational nurses (LVNs), whose primary state of residence is in an NLC state, to hold one multistate license, with the authority to practice in person or via telehealth, in both their home state and other NLC states.

Shiela Boni, MSN, RN, executive officer, Vermont State Board of Nursing, states, "We are thrilled to partner with the other compact states in our shared mission to protect public safety while providing mobility to Vermont nurses, as well as nurses across the nation, who are seeking the lifestyle and collaborative practice environment that Vermont offers."

Key points for nurses residing in other NLC states:

As of February 1, 2022, nurses residing in other NLC states who hold a multistate license may start to practice in Vermont under their existing license.

As of the same date, nurses holding a multistate license in another NLC state in which they reside, may stop renewing a Vermont license, if they currently hold one.

The NLC allows for greater nurse mobility, public protection, and access to care. It enables nurses to provide telehealth nursing services to patients located in other NLC states without having to obtain additional licenses. In the event of a public health emergency, nurses from multiple states can easily respond to supply vital services in other NLC states. Primary care nurses, nurse case managers, transport nurses, school nurses, and home health and hospice nurses, among many others, need to routinely cross state boundaries to provide the public with access to nursing services, and a multistate license facilitates this process.

Licensure requirements are uniform across NLC states, so nurses who are issued a multistate license have met the same requirements, which include a federal and state criminal background check.



Safe Harbor Nursing Peer Review - A New Resource for Nurses

By Diana Assava, MSN, APRN, AGNP-C

Safe Harbor Nursing Peer Review (SHNPR) is a protection available for nurses in Texas. SHNPR knowledge is vital for nurses in all practice settings. The Texas Board of Nursing (BON) in January 2020, became aware of a knowledge gap on peer review of nurses working in long-term care facilities (LTCFs) (Benbow, 2020). Nurses in LTCFs take care of a vulnerable population with the majority being elderly (McMichael et al., 2020). LTCFs are often under-resourced, putting nurses at higher risk of receiving workloads that potentially affect patient care and patient safety.

The recent COVID-19 pandemic and the Texas ice storm of February 2021 heightened the need to bridge the SHNPR knowledge gap. The overwhelming influx of patients to health care institutions increased the risk of nurses practicing in compromising situations.

To address the knowledge gap, a project was developed to create a SHNPR resource that would assist nurses on the topic of SHNPR and safe harbor invocation decisions.

The SHNPR resource is in alignment with Nursing Peer Review (NPR) law §303.005 and Board Rule 217.20 related to SHNPR. The tool consists of a six-page trifold pamphlet and includes pertinent information on SHNPR and three decision trees on: (1) invoking safe harbor and accepting an assignment, (2) invoking safe harbor and refusing an assignment, and (3) requested conduct.

The completed resource was evaluated using the electronic version of the GuideLine Implementability Appraisal (e-GLIA) evaluation tool developed by Yale University. There were 16 prospective evalua-

tors and nine gave feedback. Of the nine, six were BON content experts and three were long term care nurses. The e-GLIA tool was used to evaluate the resource for its clarity, credibility, executability, decidability, validity, implementability, and applicability. The SHNPR resource tool was presented to the BON at its January 2022 quarterly Board meeting. The resource is now available for official use for all nurses. The resource is available on the BON website at:

- https://www.bon.texas.gov/practice_peer_review.asp
- https://www.bon.texas.gov/practice_nursing_practice.asp#P
- https://www.bon.texas.gov/forms_safe_harbor.asp

The SHNPR resource was developed through a clinical rotation at the BON as a scholarly practice project for a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree. The resource can be used to assist in safe harbor invocations and in bridging the SHNPR knowledge gap in nurses working in LTCFs.

Below is a QR code for the SHNPR resource:



References

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Mandatory Duty to Report: A Refresher

Among the many questions Texas Board of Nursing (Board) Staff receive are those related to a nurse's duty to report another nurse to the Board or the Nursing Peer Review Committee (NPRC) when there are patient safety concerns. Unfortunately, Board Staff cannot make a determination regarding a violation of the Nursing Practice Act (NPA) and/or Board Rules via phone or e-mail. Such a determination requires a complaint driven investigation by the Board or when applicable, the NPRC.

The NPA lists certain individuals and entities who are 'mandatory reporters' by law. These mandatory reporters include: nurses, NPRCs, nursing education programs, employers, professional associations/organizations, state agencies, liability insurers, prosecuting attorneys, and peer assistance programs. Nurses are specified as 'mandatory reporters' under **NPA Section 301.402**. It should be clarified that a nurse's duty to comply with mandatory reporting requirements is a licensure requirement that is separate from that of an employer's duty to report. Specifically, this section, *Mandatory Report by Nurse*, sets forth that a nurse shall report to the Board in the manner prescribed by the NPA if the nurse has reasonable cause to suspect that:

- (1) another nurse has engaged in conduct subject to reporting; or
- (2) the ability of a nursing student to perform the services of the nursing profession would be, or would reasonably be expected to be, impaired by chemical dependency.

The NPA prescribes that a report by a nurse must be written, signed, and

include the identity of the nurse or student and any additional information required by the Board.

So, just what is conduct subject to reporting? The NPA describes the conduct that must be reported in its definitions. The definition of conduct subject to reporting can be found in **NPA Section 301.401**. According to this definition, conduct subject to reporting means conduct by a nurse that:

- (A) violates this chapter or a Board rule and contributed to the death or serious injury of a patient;
- (B) causes a person to suspect that the nurse's practice is impaired by chemical dependency or drug or alcohol abuse;
- (C) constitutes abuse, exploitation, fraud, or a violation of professional boundaries; or
- (D) indicates that the nurse lacks knowledge, skill, judgment, or conscientiousness to such an extent that the nurse's continued practice of nursing could reasonably be expected to pose a risk of harm to a patient or another person, regardless of whether the conduct consists of a single incident or a pattern of behavior.

This mandatory reporting requirement, or duty to report, in which the nurse has reasonable cause to suspect that another nurse has engaged in conduct subject to reporting, can be met by either:

1. Reporting the nurse to the NPRC; or
2. Reporting the nurse to the Board.

Additionally, NPA Section 301.402(e) (2) provides that if a nurse suspects that the ability of a nursing student to perform the services of the nursing profession would be, or would reasonably be expected to be, impaired by chemical dependency, a nurse may make a report to the nursing education program in which the student is enrolled as an alternative of reporting to the Board.

More recently, the Board has been asked about the duty of an employer to report when a nurse practicing at their facility is on a contract assignment via a nurse staffing agency. Specifically, the question asked has been: Who has the duty to report conduct that is subject to reporting? Is it the chief nurse officer within the facility, or the staffing agency with which the nurse is primarily employed?

The **NPA Section 301.405**, *Duty of Person Employing Nurse to Report*, applies to a person who employs, hires, or contracts for the services of a nurse, including: a health care facility (including but not limited to a hospital, health science center, nursing facility, or home health agency), a state agency, a political subdivision, a nursing education program, and a temporary nursing service.

This section further states that a person who terminates, suspends for more than seven days, or takes other substantive disciplinary action, as defined by the Board, against a nurse, or **substantially equivalent action against a nurse who is a staffing agency nurse, because the nurse engaged in conduct subject to reporting shall report in writing to the Board.**

Given this language in the NPA, it is **both** the employers at the facility and the nurse staffing agency who have a duty to report the nurse's conduct.

continued on next page



APRN Frequently Asked Questions

Board Staff develop frequently asked questions (FAQs) to provide guidance to nurses. FAQs are often created in response to current events and trends identified in inquiries received from stakeholders. The Board's webpage displaying FAQs relating to the practice of advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) was recently updated. The updates make it easier to view available FAQs and navigate the webpage. Three new FAQs, identified below, were also added to the webpage.

Display of Designations - Texas nurses at all levels of licensure have a responsibility to appropriately display their designations while interacting with the public in

a nursing role. This FAQ details the minimum requirements for APRNs to display their designation on their insignia and documentation.

Age Parameters and APRN Scope of Practice - APRNs licensed to provide care for certain population foci have a responsibility to know the age parameters of their scope of practice. The source of such boundaries and information associated with related scope of practice determinations is discussed in this FAQ.

APRN Scope and Medical Certification for Death Certificates - As a result of the 87th legislative session authority for APRNs to complete medical certifications for

death certificates and fetal death certificates changed. The updates are detailed in this FAQ with relevant references to statute.

The Board's FAQs can be located on the Board's website, <https://www.bon.texas.gov>. When on the homepage click on the FAQs link on the far right of the banner near the top of the page. From the drop-down menu that appears, select **Advanced Practice Registered Nurse**, located at the very top of the menu. In addition to these FAQs, from the same drop-down menu, nurses can find FAQs relating to a variety of topics including: delegation, continuing nursing education, nursing peer review, nursing practice, and more.

Duty to Report - cont. from prev. page

For clarity, it should be noted that the reporting duty under NPA Section 301.405 applies only when an employer disciplines a nurse for engaging in conduct subject to reporting, which is distinct from the mandatory reporting under 301.402, *Nurse Duty to Report*. In other words, while employers are required to report employer issued discipline under NPA Section 301.405, individual nurses have an independent duty to report under NPA Section 301.402 when suspecting a nurse has engaged in conduct subject to reporting.

If the employer is required to establish a NPRC, a copy of the report must be submitted to the NPRC so that the conduct can be reviewed to determine if any deficiency in care by the reported nurse was the result of a factor beyond the nurse's control. If the NPRC determines such a factor existed beyond the nurse's control, the conduct must be reported to the patient safety committee where the reported conduct occurred, or in the absence of a patient safety committee, to the chief nursing officer.

Please note that any individual can report a nurse to the Board at any time for any suspected violation of the NPA. All complaints must be received in writing via our online **Texas Complaint Portal** (<https://txbn.boardsofnursing.org/complaint>), be signed by the complainant, and contain a certain prescribed minimum amount of information [**Board Rule 213.13(a)**]. For more information about filing a complaint, please visit: **How to File a Complaint** on the Board's website.

Nurses Ranked as Most Trusted Professionals for 20th Consecutive Year

For the 20th straight year, nurses lead Gallup's annual ranking of professions for having high honesty and ethics. Nurses have topped the list all but once since being added to Gallup's annual rating of professions, when in 2001 firefighters took the highest ranking.

For more information, see: <https://news.gallup.com/file/poll/388700/220112HonestyEthics.pdf>

NOTICE OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The following nurses had disciplinary action taken against their licenses through a Board order containing public information about the nurse's disciplinary action. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the Board's licensure verification system should be utilized for verification. You can obtain information about these disciplinary actions from the Board's website, www.bon.texas.gov, using the verification look-up under Licensure or under the disciplinary action section of Discipline & Complaints. Under Licensure, select Verification, then click on the applicable license type; Discipline & Complaints, select Disciplinary Action, then select individual newsletter date. Additionally, you can send your written request to the Texas Board of Nursing, Enforcement Division, 333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-460, Austin, Texas 78701-3944.

Name	License Numbers	Discipline	Action Date	Name	License Numbers	Discipline	Action Date
Adams, Melissa Michelle	RN 697816	Stipulations	11/9/21	Dapaah, David Kwame	RN 905620	Remedial Education with Fine	11/3/21
Aggrey, Emelia Kwagyir	LVN 207892	Reprimand with Fine	1/20/22	Day, Jessica Elizabeth	RN 967040	Reprimand with Stipulations and Fine	12/14/21
Aguila, Cristina Olano	RN 666431 & LVN 137644	Warning with Stipulations	12/14/21	Delagarza, Lucinda	RN 582114	Probated Suspension	11/9/21
Allen, Kristy Ruth	LVN 193962	Revoked	11/9/21	Delagarza, Lucinda	AP113304 & RX 5853	Voluntary Surrender	11/9/21
Ambriz, Sarai Yvette	RN 947900	Reprimand with Stipulations	12/14/21	Derrick, Tenisha Renee	LVN 301910	Probated Suspension	12/14/21
Amro, Hamzah Jamal	RN 812702	Reprimand with Stipulations	12/14/21	Devasier, Jessica Elaine	LVN 215297	Revoked	11/9/21
Appling, Lindsay Nicole	RN 831247	Voluntary Surrender	1/7/22	Dickens, Robert Michael	RN 708161	Revoked	11/12/21
Are, Maryanne	LVN 191960	Remedial Education, Deferred	11/3/21	Dillard, Hannah Audrey	AP129311 & RN 825519	Revoked	11/8/21
Armstrong, Patricia B.	RN 811356	Revoked	1/4/22	Dominguez, Susana Del Angel	LVN 326466	Revoked	11/9/21
Arredondo, Lisa Lorena	RN 748373	Warning with Stipulations	12/14/21	Egede, Blessing Cordilia	AP142979, RX 31488, RN 821680 & LVN 172555	Warning with Stipulations	1/20/22
Ash, Heather Nicole	RN 839998	Warning with Stipulations	1/20/22	Fernandez, Veronica	RN 789545 & LVN 214992	Remedial Education	12/29/21
Atherton, Stephen L.	RN 684562	Enforced Suspension	11/16/21	Flint, Michael Annette	LVN 324534	Reprimand with Stipulations	1/20/22
Aychiluhem, Tewabech Alemayehu	RN 932099	Remedial Education	1/25/22	Folsom, Kathy Ann	LVN 145642	Voluntary Surrender	11/8/21
Bailey, Sally Lee	RN 453883	Reprimand with Stipulations	11/9/21	Fontaine, Shara	RN 732457	Warning with Fine	12/14/21
Baillio, Ashley Lavelle	AP130119, RX 19693 & RN 779048	Reprimand with Stipulations	11/9/21	Forero, Carrie	RN 863988	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	12/14/21
Barrios, Azucena Rocio	LVN 224285	Reprimand with Stipulations	12/14/21	Galindo, Jessica Lynn	RN 947345	Warning with Stipulations	1/20/22
Barrows, Stephanie Michelle	RN 770847	Revoked	11/9/21	Garcia, Marcus David	LVN 159686	Reprimand with Stipulations	1/20/22
Bayard, Dakota	RN 951375	Voluntary Surrender	12/6/21	Gilbert, Rhonda	RN 636471	Revoked	11/9/21
Biddle, Kelli Jean	LVN 300950	Revoked	1/20/22	Gonzalez, Lenzie	RN 874239	Voluntary Surrender	1/26/22
Birdine-Epps, Eve Lavette	LVN 313265	Voluntary Surrender	1/31/22	Goodspeed, Kara Maurene	RX 7774	Limited Prescribing: No Contolled Substances	11/9/21
Boswell, Dianna Adia	RN 733933	Probated Suspension	1/20/22	Goodspeed, Kara Maurene	AP115987 & RN 621906	Probated Suspension	11/9/21
Breckon, Joanne Marie	RN 937828	Reprimand with Stipulations	1/20/22	Green, Jessica Lynn	LVN 317120	Warning with Stipulations	1/20/22
Brian-Hernandez, Stacey L.	LVN 155966	Remedial Education	11/5/21	Gressett, Kory Allen	RN 867308	Remedial Education	11/2/21
Brillhart, Teresa L.	RN 227172	Voluntary Surrender	1/12/22	Gunter, Kathryn Cook	LVN 82219	Revoked	1/20/22
Brockette, Cortney Dawn	LVN 1012147	Enforced Suspension	12/2/21	Hannon, James Richard	LVN 319649	Revoked	12/14/21
Brothers, Sharon R.	LVN 69316	Probated Suspension	1/20/22	Hardin, Racheal Marie	AP139515, RX 28295 & RN 772708	Warning with Stipulations	11/9/21
Brown, Rene Octavia	RN 508906	Remedial Education	1/14/22	Hargis, Shivanne Marie	LVN 315193	Warning with Stipulations	11/9/21
Bruns, Rhonda K.	LVN 95230	Warning with Stipulations	11/9/21	Henne, Justin Guy	AP132046 & RN 818832	Remedial Education with Fine, Deferred	1/4/22
Callaway, Maureen Elizabeth	RN 593905	Revoked	11/9/21	Horan, Ursula Shermane	RN 862621	Voluntary Surrender	11/5/21
Cano, Michael Keith	RN 702244	Reprimand with Stipulations and Fine	12/14/21	Huerta, Tiffany Michelle	LVN 304012	Probated Suspension	12/14/21
Carter, Jill Ellen	LVN 117003	Warning with Stipulations	1/20/22	Hunter, Mia Michelle	RN 589164 & LVN 122793	Remedial Education with Fine	11/2/21
Celander, Elaine Annelle	RN 581646 & LVN 133583	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	11/9/21	Ibeson, Stella Ekwutosi	RN 934653	Warning with Stipulations	12/14/21
Cerda, Jannette Denneida	LVN 308689	Revoked	1/20/22	Ihekwoaba, Jessica Ijeoma	RN 856154	Warning with Stipulations	12/14/21
Chevalier, Nathaniel Joseph	LVN 203665	Revoked	1/2/19	Jackson, Allison Renee	RN 870197	Warning with Stipulations	1/20/22
Claros, Cedric	RN 981796	Probated Suspension	11/9/21	Johnson, Kathryn Rene	LVN 135079	Revoked	11/9/21
Coe, Sharon Kay	LVN 219755	Reprimand with Stipulations	12/14/21	Johnson, Rachana Shah	RN 936181	Warning with Stipulations, Deferred	11/9/21
Collins, Kristin	RN 702513 & LVN 154467	Revoked	12/9/19	Jordan, Brandalynn Elizabeth	RN 893112	Voluntary Surrender	12/27/21
Cooper, Tiffany Syemone	LVN 353520	Revoked	11/9/21	Jordan, Graham Kenneth	RN 897873	Revoked	1/20/22
Covarrubio, Lydia M.	LVN 82687	Reprimand with Stipulations and Fine	1/20/22	Katinga, Sherryl Yvonne	AP133838, RX 23011 & RN 769073	Warning with Stipulations	12/14/21
Daigle, Brandi Marie	RN 785964 & LVN 202888	Reprimand with Stipulations	1/20/22	Kay, Brittany Nicole	RN 894802	Reprimand with Stipulations	11/9/21
Dalipe, Aimee Ramos	RN 833625	Revoked	12/14/21	Kelley, Sheryl Lynne	RN 618281 & LVN 124020	Revoked	11/9/21
Dalton, Maria Eugenia Flores	RN 876115	Warning with Stipulations	1/20/22	Kilander, Debra Jean	RN 563164 & LVN 62099	Revoked	11/9/21
Daniels, Whitney	LVN 331279	Warning with Stipulations	12/14/21				

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DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- cont. from prev. pg.

Name	License Numbers	Discipline	Action Date	Name	License Numbers	Discipline	Action Date
King, Tammy Lynn	LVN 199354	Revoked	12/14/21	Powers, Caleb Aaron	RN 942250	Voluntary Surrender	11/2/21
Kruse, Debbie Simecek	LVN 62506	Voluntary Surrender	11/2/21	Purcell, Caitlyn Rose	RN 868621	Probated Suspension	11/9/21
Laurent, Larry Stephen	RN 948856	Revoked	11/9/21	Ramirez, Kristen Deanne	LVN 197498	Revoked	11/9/21
Lee, Michele Nicole	RN 674605	Probated Suspension	1/20/22	Redding, Zakri Blake	AP132206, RX 21573 & RN 822598	Voluntary Surrender	1/3/22
Lewis, Mindy	RN 693483	Revoked	11/9/21	Reid, Summer Dee	RN 901154	Voluntary Surrender	1/5/22
Little, Tammie Lynn	RN 671405	Voluntary Surrender	1/24/22	Riddle, Robin	RN 786190	Reprimand with Stipulations	12/14/21
Long, Felisha Josephine	LVN 317610	Remedial Education	11/23/21	Rios, Eva A.	LVN 172384	Warning with Stipulations	12/14/21
Loop, Connie	RN 653305 & LVN 158689	Warning with Stipulations	12/14/21	Rodriguez, Laura Garcia	RN 759942 & LVN 203828	Reprimand with Stipulations	1/20/22
Lopez, Mario B.	RN 522161 & LVN 102147	Probated Suspension	11/9/21	Rodriguez, Rebecca Diane	RN 710025	Remedial Education	11/17/21
Lopez, Rosa Maria	LVN 56192	Warning with Stipulations	12/14/21	Rubaba, Farrellin Iyatunde	RN 883717	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	11/9/21
Lotzer, Robert Andrew	LVN 1000803	Probated Suspension	1/20/22	Ruiz, Mindy Elizabeth	RN 829635	Voluntary Surrender	11/1/21
Louden, Marilyn Freeman	RN 508103	Reprimand with Stipulations	12/14/21	Rumel, Derek Johnson	RN 883918	Remedial Education	12/1/21
Lover, Fredrika Deann	LVN 336748	Warning with Stipulations	1/20/22	Sanderson, Robbie Lynn	LVN 315058	Revoked	1/20/22
Machie, Carolyn O.	RN 677298	Revoked	1/4/22	Sandoval, Katie Marie	LVN 326525	Revoked	11/9/21
Mandy, III, Arthur	AP124069, RX 14453 & RN 839327	Reprimand with Stipulations	1/20/22	Schultz, Christina Leeann	LVN 190296	Voluntary Surrender	11/12/21
Martin, Desiree Danielle	RN 785711	Voluntary Surrender	11/16/21	Searcey, Betty Darlene	RN 254383 & LVN 78447	Warning with Stipulations	1/20/22
McCartha, Theresa Marie	RN 1000110	Voluntary Surrender	1/26/22	Sharp, Tina Louise	RN 805992	Revoked	11/9/21
McGarth, Allison Dyan	RN 625303	Revoked	11/9/21	Shaw, Sydney Blair	LVN 303291	Probated Suspension	12/14/21
McGill, Burnetta Liamon	RN 568680	Remedial Education with Fine	1/11/22	Sifuentes, Suzanne Vincent	LVN 219511	Revoked	11/9/21
McKnight, Linda D.	AP109764, RX 3183 & RN 589485	Reprimand with Stipulations	11/9/21	Simon, Laila Aydi	RN 829000	Remedial Education with Fine	1/11/22
Mills, Amy	RN 811917	Voluntary Surrender	1/24/22	Smith, Melissa Maree	LVN 195816	Reprimand with Stipulations	12/14/21
Mitchell, Kinya D.	RN 743899 & LVN 204346	Warning with Stipulations	11/9/21	Smith, Peter Albert	RN 987376	Revoked	11/9/21
Moinat, Stacy Diane	LVN 317203	Voluntary Surrender	1/7/22	Song, Yuxiu	RN 741481	Warning with Stipulations	12/14/21
Montgomery, Chandra Lanette	AP115339, RX 7247, RN 636019 & LVN 146174	Remedial Education with Fine	1/7/22	Starnes, Tysha Dawn	PTP AR RN R068807	Enforced Suspension	1/20/22
Moody, Tammie Bell	LVN 308039	Reprimand with Stipulations	11/9/21	Steen, Jennifer Kay	RN 977095 & LVN 164573	Voluntary Surrender	12/28/21
Mwazaka, Beatrice Mpoke	RN 853090	Warning with Stipulations	11/9/21	Stephens, Peggy Teresa Lucas	RN 547872 & LVN 83359	Revoked	11/9/21
Narinesingh, Rajesh	RN 732674	Warning with Stipulations	12/14/21	Stern, Rebecca Ann	LVN 309062	Remedial Education with Fine	1/19/22
Newberry, James Scott	RN 882933	Probated Suspension	12/14/21	Stewart, Misty Dawn	AP126687, RX 16720 & RN 825842	Remedial Education with Fine	11/18/21
Ngale, Pauline Ahone	LVN 229165	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	1/20/22	Stewart, Shannon G.	RN 516688	Revoked	12/14/21
Njenge, Roland Louis	RN 806222	Revoked	12/14/21	Strickland, Jessica Ruth	AP120662, RX 11571 & RN 675497	Warning with Stipulations	11/9/21
Nwankwo, Augustine Efuna	RN 822969	Warning with Stipulations	1/20/22	Taylor, Robin Raquel	LVN 123079	Voluntary Surrender	11/3/21
O'Brien, Jennifer	AP110838 & RN 606375	Enforced Suspension	12/6/21	Tellez, Norma Jean	LVN 183988	Warning with Stipulations	1/20/22
Ogodo, Sophie	LVN 317406	Probated Suspension	1/20/22	Thaggard, Susie A.	RN 668745 & LVN 108029	Probated Suspension	1/13/22
Oha, Geraldine Ekwutosi	RN 656301	Reprimand with Stipulations	1/20/22	Thomas, Dana Elizabeth	RN 825003	Revoked	7/14/21
Okeowo, Kathleen	PTP OK PN L0069979	Reprimand with Stipulations	1/20/22	Thomas, Kenlie (Smith)	LVN 343468	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	12/14/21
Olatunji, Adebayo	AP135699, RX 24740, RN 774437 & LVN 205095	Remedial Education	12/15/21	Toweh, Marian Laluo	RN 584820 & LVN 127067	Warning with Stipulations, Deferred	11/9/21
Oliver, Katrina Jo	RN 917625	Reprimand with Stipulations	1/20/22	Tripp, Thomas Lee	RN 868678	Revoked	12/14/21
Oluwasola, Oluwatoyin Afolabi	RN 739651	Warning with Stipulations	12/14/21	Trueblood, Patricia Munoz	AP116369, RX 8133 & RN 596111	Remedial Education	11/22/21
Omuya, Abel Iglesias	RN 982040	Warning with Stipulations	12/14/21	Turley, Sue Ellen	RN 453841	Revoked	11/9/21
Orozco, Julio Cesar	RN 799182	Warning with Stipulations	12/14/21	Turner, Shawnequa Nicole	RN 987554 & LVN 230394	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	1/20/22
Owens, Jacob Warren	RN 792068	Probated Suspension	11/9/21	Walker, Courtney Annitoinette	RN 776108	Remedial Education with Fine	1/27/22
Palmer, Kristine Ellen	RN 982073	Enforced Suspension	12/8/21	Walker, Tameka Dequan	LVN 200303	Remedial Education	12/16/21
Parker, Helen R.	RN 621207 & LVN 147871	Remedial Education	11/12/21	Walter, Catherine Frances	RN 929314	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	11/9/21
Parks, Shatoria Breann	LVN 349932	Remedial Education	11/29/21	Washington, Natalie Shereese	PTP NC PN 079084	Reprimand with Stipulations	11/9/21
Partridge, Donna Renee	RN 646698	Reprimand with Stipulations	11/9/21	Webster, Crystal Ann	RN 1019355	Warning with Stipulations	11/9/21
Patti, Sandra Iris	RN 765805	Warning with Stipulations	1/20/22	White, Sylvia Ann	LVN 161696	Reprimand with Stipulations	1/20/22
Pena, Nicole Renee	RN 732304	Remedial Education	12/2/21				
Perez, Lynne Marie	LVN 147763	Warning with Stipulations	12/14/21				
Pierce, Drew	RN 885504	Reprimand with Stipulations and Fine	12/14/21				
Pinon, Santiago	RN 838379	Remedial Education	1/24/22				

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The Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) safeguards patients by providing early identification, support, monitoring, accountability, and advocacy to Texas nurses who have an identified substance use or mental health condition or related incident, so they may practice nursing safely. If you would like to learn more about the TPAPN program, they are offering a *Lunch and Learn* on June 8, 2022, for any nurse who wants to learn more.

The Peer Support Partner is a volunteer nurse who provides peer support, guidance, encouragement, and more, to nurses participating in TPAPN. *Peer Support Partner Informational Sessions* are currently offered monthly by TPAPN so you can learn more about the fundamental role of the Peer Support Partner. The next information sessions are scheduled for: April 19, 2022; May 24, 2022; and June 21, 2022.

In order to become a Peer Support Partner, attendance is required at a *Peer Support Partner Workshop*. The *Peer Support Partner Workshop* is designed to provide information about substance use disorder and mental health in nursing as well as information regarding peer support and is offered several times a year. The next dates for the *Peer Support Partner Workshop* are April 8, 2022, and July 15, 2022.

Current Peer Support Partners are supported in part through monthly Peer Support Partner educational groups. The monthly *Beyond the Workshop Peer Support Partner Educational Group* will be meeting on April 21, 2022; May 26, 2022; and June 23, 2022.

The TPAPN website has more information about the program, Peer Support Partners, and registration links for the various education and training opportunities; please visit www.tpapn.org. A nurse with a substance use or mental health condition may self-report to TPAPN. A person may report a nurse to TPAPN when aware of a nurse with a substance use or mental health condition where the nurse has not had a nursing practice violation. The TPAPN referral form is on the TPAPN website. A nurse with a substance use or mental health condition who has committed a practice violation must be reported to the Board of Nursing.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- cont. from prev. pg.

Name	License Numbers	Discipline	Action Date
Whittier, Severine Bergeron	AP142755 & RN 737555	Remedial Education	12/21/21
Williams, Deidre Larae	RN 754787 & LVN 208626	Reprimand with Stipulations and Fine	1/20/22
Willis, Brittany	PTP AR PN L056884	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	1/20/22
Wilson, Leslie Diane	RN 789986	Enforced Suspension	11/4/21
Wittman, Terri Lynn	RN 967446	Warning with Stipulations	1/20/22
Wood, Candi Lyn	LVN 189300	Reprimand with Stipulations	12/14/21
Young, Kimberly Lasha	RN 827959	Warning with Stipulations	12/14/21
Zackaria, Bobby	RN 590292	Warning with Stipulations, Deferred	1/20/22
Zehr, Philip Scott	RN 841326	Revoked	11/12/21
Zheng, Xuelian	LVN 345487	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	11/9/21
Zuschlag-Hunt, Terriah Ann	LVN 219431	Revoked	11/9/21

Abbreviations in the Notice of Disciplinary Action Section

PTP Privilege to Practice in Texas, also known as Nurse Licensure Compact Privilege, associated with the indicated state and license. States are abbreviated using the official two letter state abbreviations of the United States Postal Service.

RX Prescription Authorization

Statistical information

The 193 disciplinary actions reported in this Bulletin represent only 0.0381% of nurses who are currently licensed to practice in the State of Texas.

As of December 1, 2021, 99.68% of current Registered Nurses, 99.35% of current Licensed Vocational Nurses, and 99.70% of current Advanced Practice Registered Nurses were without discipline according to Board records.



Texas Board of Nursing Employment Opportunities for Registered Nurses

If a nursing position that provides the opportunity to protect the safety and welfare of Texans interests you, consider a position in nursing regulation. The Texas Board of Nursing (BON or Board) currently has the following openings:

- 1. BON Nursing Consultant for Practice (Nurse III):** The Nurse III, Nursing Consultant for Practice, performs highly advanced consultative and administrative work for the Board. Under the direction of the Team Leader for Practice and the Director of Nursing, assists in interpreting the Nursing Practice Act (NPA), rules, and other applicable laws to the public, prepares reports to the Board, and assists with development and/or revision of position statements, guidelines, interpretive statements, and internal policies and procedures related to nursing practice and continuing education. The Nursing Consultant for Practice also assists with conducting statewide Board workshops as well as development of online educational materials for online use. The Nursing Consultant for Practice also serves as a resource on practice-related investigations, and may provide testimony as an expert witness on the NPA, Rules, Disciplinary Sanction Policies, and the minimum standard of care in relation to Enforcement cases before the State Office of Administrative Hearings, or in other legal proceedings where such consultation is needed.

Position Requirements:

- Unencumbered and current RN licensure in Texas, or eligible for licensure;
 - Broad experience in various types of professional nursing (RN) positions with at least three years in patient care; and
 - Minimum of a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree from a professional nursing program approved by the State of Texas or the state from which the school was located and actively enrolled in an approved or accredited Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program and working towards an MSN.
- 2. BON RN Investigator V:** The RN Investigator V conducts complex (journey-level) investigative work including investigations of alleged violations of the Nurse Practice Act and Board rules and regulations. The RN Investigator also may participate in informal conferences, formal disciplinary hearings, depositions, prepare cases for informal conferences, and recommend case dispositions as appropriate.

Position Requirements:

- Current RN licensure to practice in Texas;
- Associate Degree in Nursing from an accredited or approved nursing program required; and
- Two years nursing experience or specialized training in related nursing area.

The Board offers extensive benefits to its employees, including career advancement, tuition reimbursement, health and dental insurance, and paid vacation and sick leave. For more information about the BON positions, please visit the complete postings at: https://www.bon.texas.gov/about_careers.asp

The BON is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, genetic information, or status as an individual with a disability or protected veteran in its hiring and recruitment process. Veterans and former foster youth employment preferences are granted as required by law.



Texas Board of Nursing
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Austin, Texas 78701-3944



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The purpose of the *Texas Board of Nursing Bulletin* is to disseminate information to nurses licensed by the State of Texas, their employers, health care providers, and the public concerning laws and regulations established by the Texas Board of Nursing related to the safe and legal practice of nursing. The *Texas Board of Nursing Bulletin* provides information on current issues and trends in nursing regulation, status of nursing education programs, information regarding licensure and nursing practice, and disciplinary action taken against licensees who violated the Nursing Practice Act or Board Rules and Regulations.

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Office Hours and Location

The office of the Texas Board of Nursing is located in the William P. Hobby Building, located at the corner of 4th and Guadalupe in downtown Austin. The mailing address is: 333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-460, Austin, Texas 78701-3944. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for designated holidays. At this time the Board's office is closed to visitors. If you need to reach the Board, please call (512) 305-7400 or send an email to: webmaster@bon.texas.gov

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Nursing Delegation: Distribution of the Workload**<

This course provides all licensed nurses with information on the current standards of nursing practice, rules, and regulations applicable to nursing delegation in Texas, providing nurses with 2.0 CNE contact hours. Cost: \$25.00.

Nursing Peer Review: Safe Harbor Nursing Peer Review and Whistleblower Protections**

The purpose of this online continuing education offering is to provide all licensed nurses with information on the current standards of nursing practice, rules, and regulations applicable to Safe Harbor Nursing Peer Review and Whistleblower Protections in Texas. This course is approved for 1.2 CNE contact hours. Cost \$25.00.

Nursing Peer Review: Incident-Based Nursing Peer Review and the Minor Incident Rule**

The purpose of this online continuing education offering is to provide all licensed nurses with information on the current standards of nursing practice, rules, and regulations applicable to Incident-Based Nursing Peer Review and the Minor Incident Rule in Texas. This course is approved for 1.6 CNE contact hours. Cost \$25.00.

BON Lifelong Learning Account

Depending on the continuing education course, you may be required to log into your individual account to complete follow-up learning activities and/or course evaluations after a workshop, webinar, or online course in order to receive your CNE certificate of completion.

Your BON Lifelong Learning Account will also contain links for workshop handouts, any required forms, post-activity certificates of completion, and other helpful resources for each registered activity. If questions arise during your registration or during an online learning course, there are specific Help links throughout the process to direct you to the dedicated Online Learning Help Desk.

Secure online payments are completed using major credit cards, bank cards (those with Visa or MasterCard logos), or online checks. Registration payments submitted directly to the Board will be returned and the registration process will be delayed. Employers, organizations, or groups can complete payment for multiple registrants with the purchase of a bulk voucher. The bulk voucher system will send the voucher information to the group coordinator for distribution to individual registrants. Each individual will use the voucher as the form of payment during her/his own online registration.

BON Continuing Competency Offerings Address Nursing Jurisprudence and Ethics Requirement

In 2013, the 83rd Regular Texas Legislative Session passed a law that specified continuing education requirements for all nurses. Senate Bill (SB) 1058 requires nurses to complete at least two hours of continuing education related to nursing jurisprudence and ethics before the end of every third two-year licensing period. The BON has two continuing education offerings which meet the requirement: the workshop titled, "Protecting Your Patients & Your Practice, Nursing Jurisprudence & Ethics", and the interactive online course titled, "Nursing Regulations for Safe Practice". For more information about BON continuing competency requirements, visit the Board's website, click on **Laws and Rules**, then **Rules and Regulations**, and then **Chapter 216**.

Please Note: Workshop participants more than 10 minutes late or who leave prior to the end of the workshop will not receive CNE credit or meet BON stipulations.

Visit the BON CNE Catalog at <https://www.bon.texas.gov/catalog/> for the latest information.



Texas Board of Nursing
333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-460
Austin, TX 78701

Texas Board of Nursing

Learning Opportunities: 2022



Continuing Competency Workshops and Online Educational Offerings

The Texas Board of Nursing is excited to offer learning opportunities for 2022. Nurses can explore a variety of topics designed to provide the most current information to support safe nursing practice. Space is limited; early registration is recommended.





2022 Workshops

Protecting Your Patients & Your Practice, Nursing Jurisprudence & Ethics **#+>

These virtual workshops have been approved for 7.7 contact hours of continuing nursing education (CNE).

June 15, 2022 (Wednesday)

August 10, 2022 (Wednesday)

September 29, 2022 (Thursday)

November 9, 2022 (Wednesday)

Note: *Computer speakers are REQUIRED for all virtual workshops. No cash accepted for payment. Early registration is encouraged.*

Cost: *Virtual workshop preregistration \$79.00.*

Time: *8:00 am to 3:30 pm Central Standard Time (CST) for virtual workshops.*

Note: Due to COVID-19, BON workshops have transitioned to virtual delivery as needed for the safety of participants. Visit the BON CNE Catalog at <https://www.bon.texas.gov/catalog/> for the latest information.

How to Register

You can register for all Board of Nursing (BON) educational offerings--online courses and workshops--through the BON CNE Course Catalog. To register for a BON workshop or online course, please visit our website at www.bon.texas.gov and select the CNE Course Catalog icon. You will receive a purchase confirmation and event reminders via your email address leading up to the scheduled activity and for post activity reminders in order to help you access your CNE Certificate of Completion. Instructions and help for confirming that your workstation is compatible with the online process are provided for each event. All of the BON CNE activities include online components that must be completed in conjunction with the activity in order to receive completion credit and certificates. When you register online, a BON Lifelong Learning Account is created that will be your home for accessing handouts, evaluations, and certificates.

Legend

- ** This continuing nursing education offering was approved by the Texas Board of Nursing. The Texas Board of Nursing is an approved provider of continuing education by the Alabama Board of Nursing, ABNP1509, expiration date July 28, 2024.
- # This offering meets the 2-hour CNE requirement for nursing jurisprudence and ethics established during the 2013 Legislative Session.
- + This offering satisfies the nursing jurisprudence and ethics requirement for Board orders.
- @ This course does not award CNE contact hours.
- > The Authors, Speakers/Presenters, Content Reviewers and Experts declare that there are no conflicts of interest.
- < This course satisfies nursing delegation requirements for Board orders.



Interactive Online Learning

Nursing Regulations for Safe Practice **#

This interactive online CNE course is easy to access on any schedule. Approved for 2.8 contact hours. Cost: \$25.00.

Prescriptive Authority for APRNs **

This course provides information on the current laws and regulations governing prescriptive authority in the State of Texas. The course is designed to help the learner develop a greater understanding of delegation of prescriptive authority to Texas APRNs and requirements that must be met for APRNs to be in compliance with Texas laws and BON rules. Approved for 1.2 contact hours. Cost: \$25.00.

Documentation: So Let It Be Said...In Writing That Is **

The purpose of this online continuing education activity is to provide all licensed nurses with information on the current standards of nursing practice, rules, and regulations applicable to nursing documentation in Texas. Approved for 1.4 contact hours. Cost: \$25.00.

Texas Online Nursing Jurisprudence Exam Prep Course @

The BON has developed a Nursing Jurisprudence Exam Prep Course that offers interactive instruction on the subject areas covered on the Nursing Jurisprudence Exam (NJE). The prep course is delivered online with the ability to bookmark "Hot Topics" to review later. The course, complete with training on how to locate information on the BON website, also includes access to printable resources and practice questions that will be useful, not only for NJE preparation but also for your future nursing practice. Cost: \$25.00.

Determining APRN Scope of Practice **

The purpose of this online continuing education activity is to provide advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) with information on the current standards of nursing practice, rules, and regulations applicable to the advanced practice scope of practice in Texas. Approved for 1.4 contact hours. Cost: \$25.00.